PRESENT—*cont.*

Thangal, Mr. P. M.
Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S. Mr. H. R.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Vedachala Mudaliyar, Rao Sahib M.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur, The.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Excise

Advantages of the grouping system of toddy shops.

* 671 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the names are of the toddy shops that are brought under the group system at Salem;

(*b*) what the amount of sale fetched by each of those shops was in each year for the past five years ending with 1934–35;

(*c*) what the sale amount of the group for the current year is;

(*d*) for what special reasons this sort of grouping has been made and what are the advantages and disadvantages of this system;

(*e*) in how many places in this Province such a system has been adopted and what those places are;

(*f*) what the net income or loss is in each of those places when compared to the income from those shops during the previous year;

(*g*) how many shops, each of such groups contains; and

(*h*) when was this system of grouping brought in?

A.—(*a*) Five toddy shops in Salem town and ten rural toddy shops adjoining them were disposed of in one group for a period of two years from 1st October 1935. The Government have no information as to the names of the shops.

(*b*) The average monthly rental of these shops for the last five years was Rs. 29,555. The Government have no other information.

(*c*) Rupees 32,000 per mensem.

(*d*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (*a*) of question No. 470 answered on 5th November 1935.

(*e*) So far as the Government are aware, shops were also sold in groups in the towns of Bellary and Kurnool.

(*f*) The sale by groups resulted in an increase in rental of about Rs. 35,000 in each of the places mentioned in clause (*e*).

(*g*) The Government have no information.

(*h*) It has been a recognized method since 1896.

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Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" Sir, in answer to clause (*h*), it is said that it has been a recognized method since 1896. Am I to understand, Sir, that it was given effect to all these years or only recently adopted? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" The Commissioner has been given discretion to adopt this method whenever local conditions require it.

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" Had it been so adopted before last year? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" I think so, though I have no specific information."

Diversion of toddy tapped for one shop to another.

* 672 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the toddy tapped from trees marked for a particular shop can be taken to other shops for sale and if so, under what authority;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the group shop contractor at Salem has been permitted to take the toddy tapped from trees marked for certain shops in the group to Bangalore;

(*c*) if so, whether a copy of the permission and licence granted in the matter will be placed on the table;

(*d*) whether such a permission is usually given or whether this is a novel procedure; and

(*e*) if novel, what the special reasons are for this deviation?

A.—A report has been called for.

Mixing of toddy for shops under the grouping system.

* 673 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the toddy tapped from trees marked for a particular shop can be mixed up with toddy from trees specifically marked for other shops, and then a general distribution made to various shops as demands arise day by day;

(*b*) whether this method can be adopted ordinarily or whether any special permission is required for doing so; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that such a practice is followed at the group shops at Salem and permission has been granted therefor?

A.—A report has been called for.

Excise duty on homœopathic medicines imported from Bengal.

* 674 *Q.*—Mr. G. Rameswara Rao : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any excise duty is being levied on import of homœopathic medicines from Bengal into our Presidency;